

## BOOK REVIEW

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**Sexually Transmitted Diseases: Advances in Diagnosis and Treatment.** (Current Problems in Dermatology; vol 24) by P EISNER, A EICHMANN Karger 1996. (Pp 267; \$249.75.) ISBN 3-8055-6220-9.

This is volume 24 of the *Current Problems in Dermatology* series—and the level of some of the articles reflects this. It is formatted as a series of review articles on selected topics, split into the following categories:

1. Advances in diagnosis, 2. Advances in treatment, 3. New substances and methods.

The individual articles vary greatly in the amount of detail, some clearly expound current research (up to 1994 when the articles were submitted) whilst others are too brief. However, it is well referenced and does provide readable précis on assorted topics.

When read as a whole there is a feeling of déjà vu as each section is a separate entity and there is repetition of background information. An example of this are the reviews on *Genital Herpes* (in: *Advances in treatment*), *Aciclovir and its L-valyl ester, valaciclovir* and *Use of penciclovir and famciclovir in the management of genital herpes* (both in: *New substances and methods*).

Overall the book is well produced with 34 figures and 50 tables, including WHO and CDC treatment guidelines for some conditions. Some articles are more readable than others, depending on the quality of written English and the amount of detail included. Occasional queries arise, such as the relevance of a treatment schedule for coccidioidomycosis in pregnancy when the use of zidovudine in pregnancy is only briefly mentioned, and why laser treatment has been tried in genital herpes. I feel that this book is good to dip into and is well referenced but will probably become outdated quite rapidly.

SARAH EDWARDS

## NOTICES

### The Liverpool course for the Diploma in Genitourinary Medicine and Venereology 1997 January to March 1997 (12 weeks)

This is a full-time postgraduate course intended for all doctors wishing to gain a theoretical and practical knowledge of genitourinary medicine leading up to the examination for the Diploma in Genitourinary Medicine and Venereology of the University of Liverpool, held in March 1997.

Fees for tuition and examination (subject to revision): Home and EEC: £623; Overseas: £3,613. Early application is advised. Application form may be obtained from: The Secretary to the Course in Genitourinary Medicine and Venereology, University of Liverpool, Dept of Medical Microbiology and GU Medicine, Duncan Building, Daulby Street, Liverpool L69 3BX, UK.

### EUROGIN 3<sup>RD</sup> International Congress BAXON, 25–28 March 1997.

Information from 69/73 avenue du Général Leclerc, BP 304-92102 Boulogne-France.

### Second European Forum on Quality Improvement in Health Care 24–26 April 1997. Paris, France

The forum will consist of one day teaching courses, invited presentations, posters and presentations selected from submissions and a scientific session.

For more information contact:

BMA, Conference Unit, PO Box 295, London, WC1H 9TE. Tel: +44 (0) 171 383 6478 Fax: +44 (0) 171 383 6869.

### 13th World Congress of Sexology "Sexuality and Human Rights" 25–29 June, 1997, Valencia, Spain

Information from Secretariat Europa Travel, SA Calle Hernán Cortés num. 28, 46004 Valencia, España—Tel. 3524547, Fax 3525497 Prefix code in Spain: 96. International Code: 34–6.

### The University of Sydney

Department of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine

### MASTER OF MEDICINE

(Sexual Health)

one year full time, two years part-time

Applications are invited from medical graduates for enrolment in this unique course, which offers an integrated approach to Sexual Health, STDs, and HIV infection. Core units include:

\*Clinical and diagnostic sciences

\*Epidemiology, statistics, and health promotion

\*Research methodology

\*International cross-cultural, and sociological issues

Coursework begins in February, 1997

Application forms and prospectus are available from Ms Kim Hutchinson, Dr Melinda Tenant-Flowers or Professor Adrian Mindel, Academic Unit of Sexual Health Medicine, Sydney Hospital, GPO Box 1614, Sydney NSW 2001, Australia. Tel: + 61 (2) 9382-7420. Fax: + 61 (2) 9382-7425. E-mail: psweeney@extro.ucc.su.oz.au. **Closing date:** 30 November, 1996.

## CORRECTIONS

In the paper by Stephenson and Williams *Is rifabutin prophylaxis against Mycobacterium avium complex infection in HIV infection worthwhile?* (*Genitourin Med* 1996;72:272–6) there was an error in Table 3. The number needed to treat (NNT) should be:

$$\frac{1}{X_1 - X_2} \times 100$$

Abstracts of the Spring Meeting of the Medical Society for the Study of Venereal Diseases (*Genitourin Med* 1996;72:303–9). It should have been stated that the abstracts had been selected by a panel of judges at the oral presentations at the Meeting.